

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
  - 2 receiving an electrical idle ordered set at a receiving device power management unit, the
  - 3 electrical idle ordered set to indicate to the receiving device that a transmitting device coupled to
  - 4 the receiving device via an interconnect is to enter a low power state;
  - 5 entering a low power entry state if there is no activity on ~~an~~ the interconnect ~~when based~~
  - 6 on receipt of the electrical idle ordered set ~~is received~~; and
  - 7 bypassing the low power entry state and entering a low power reset state if there is
  - 8 activity on the interconnect ~~when the electrical idle ordered set is received~~.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein entering a low power entry state includes turning
- 2 off a receiver circuit in the receiving device.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising entering a low power idle state
- 2 following the low power entry state.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising exiting the low power idle state and
- 2 entering a low power receiver on state when activity is detected on the interconnect.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising turning on the receiver circuit while in  
2 the low power receiver on state.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising exiting the low power receiver on state  
2 and entering the low power receiver reset state.

1 7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

2 a receiver circuit to provide electrical connection to an interconnect;

3 an interconnect activity check unit coupled to the receiver circuit, the interconnect  
4 activity check unit to determine whether there is activity on the interconnect;

5 a pipeline to process incoming signals received at the receiver circuit; and

6 a power management unit to receive an electrical idle order set processed by the pipeline,  
7 the electrical idle order set to indicate that a transmitting device coupled to the receiver circuit  
8 via the interconnect is to enter a low power state, wherein the power management unit is to turn  
9 off the receiver circuit after an electrical idle ordered set is processed by the pipeline and  
10 received by the power management unit if the interconnect activity check unit indicates that there  
11 is no activity on the interconnect, and the power management unit to not turn off the receiver  
12 circuit ~~after an electrical idle ordered set is processed by the pipeline and received by the power~~  
13 ~~management unit~~ if the interconnect activity check unit indicates that there is activity ~~of~~ on the  
14 interconnect.

1 8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the pipeline includes a data extraction unit and a  
2 packet processing unit.

1 9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, the receiver circuit including a pair of inputs to receive a  
2 pair of differential signals, the differential signals included as part of the interconnect.

1 10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, the interconnect activity check unit to indicate that there  
2 is no activity on the interconnect if the differential pair of signals are at approximately a common  
3 mode voltage.

1 11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, the receiver circuit to provide electrical connection to  
2 a PCI Express interconnect.

1 12. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:  
2 a transmitting device; and  
3 a receiving device coupled to the transmitting device via an interconnect, the receiving  
4 device including  
5 a receiver circuit to provide electrical connection to the interconnect,  
6 an interconnect activity check unit coupled to the receiver circuit, the  
7 interconnect activity check unit to determine whether there is activity on the  
8 interconnect,  
9 a pipeline to process incoming signals received at the receiver circuit, and

10 a power management unit to receive an electrical idle order set processed by the  
11 pipeline, the electrical idle order set to indicate that the transmitting device is to enter a  
12 low power state, wherein the power management unit is to turn off the receiver circuit  
13 ~~after an electrical idle ordered set is processed by the pipeline and received by the power~~  
14 ~~management unit~~ if the interconnect activity check unit indicates that there is no activity  
15 on the interconnect, and the power management unit to not turn off the receiver circuit  
16 ~~after an electrical idle ordered set is processed by the pipeline and received by the power~~  
17 ~~management unit~~ if the interconnect activity check unit indicates that there is activity of  
18 on the interconnect.

1 13. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the pipeline includes a data extraction unit and a  
2 packet processing unit.

1 14. (Original) The system of claim 13, the receiver circuit including a pair of inputs to receive a  
2 pair of differential signals, the differential signals included as part of the interconnect.

1 15. (Original) The system of claim 14, the interconnect activity check unit to indicate that there  
2 is no activity on the interconnect if the differential pair of signals are at approximately a common  
3 mode voltage.

1 16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the interconnect is a PCI Express interconnect.